



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



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Rain & Cooler Temperatures Has Some Benefit to Row Crops

Data tables reflect the week ending: **September 10, 2011**

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2010	5-Yr Avg.
	Percent			
Corn Mature	99	92	100	91
Corn Harvested	60	43	4	39
Cotton Setting Bolls	93	82	99	99
Cotton Bolls Opening	47	30	71	57
Cotton Harvested	0	0	4	4
Peanuts Pegged	96	94	99	99
Peanuts Dug	4	1	5	3
Peanuts Combined	2	1	0	0
Soybeans Setting Pods	96	86	89	93
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	22	11	44	43
Soybeans Harvested	1	0	6	4

CROP / LIVESTOCK CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.
	Percent				
Corn	10	15	37	35	3
Cotton	9	23	40	27	1
Peanuts	12	21	40	25	2
Soybeans	4	16	33	44	3
Livestock	2	11	35	48	4
Pasture & Range	12	25	37	25	1

TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
		Percent			
District 10	2.6	1	5	71	23
District 20	2.9	1	15	60	24
District 30	4.4	14	59	27	0
District 40	4.5	5	38	49	8
District 50	5.3	6	22	70	2
District 60	5.2	42	31	24	3
State: Current Week	4.1	12	24	52	12
State: Previous	6.3	30	36	25	9

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

General: Shane Seay, Farm Service Agency (FSA) County Executive Director (CED), said Tropical Storm Lee brought 5 – 5.5 inches of rainfall to Limestone County. Thomas D. Atkinson, FSA CED, said rainfall from Tropical Storm Lee was welcome in Madison County; however, another result was dramatically reduced temperatures. Glen McGee, FSA CED, said 9 – 12 inches of rain were received in DeKalb County. Gregory Key, FSA CED, said North East Alabama received 6 – 10 inches of rain. Cathy Blackburn, FSA CED, said rainfall varied from 1 – 3 inches in Chambers and Lee Counties. Carol Gay, FSA CED, said Clay and Randolph Counties received much needed rain and cooler temperatures. Don Moore, Director of the Alabama Experiment Station in Prattville, said Tropical Storm Lee brought wind and 1.9 inches of slow rain. Jeffrey Smith, FSA CED, said rainfall from Tropical Storm Lee brought 3 – 4 inches to Elmore, Montgomery, Tallapoosa, and Coosa Counties. Alfred Jackson, Tuskegee Cooperative Extension Program County Agent, said last week's rain helped, but not enough to pull the Blackbelt out of drought. James Rhodes, FSA CED, said Hale County received 0.5 – 4 inches of rain. Jimmy Todd, Alabama Cooperative Extension System (ACES) County Executive Coordinator (CEC), said although Mobile County received more than 11 inches of rain in four days, the county was just included in a drought declaration. Doyle E. Barnes, FSA CED, said Covington County received up to 6 inches of rain, which should help pastures, hay, peanuts, and cotton. Dorothy Chavers, FSA CED, said Crenshaw County producers have reported receiving from 2 – 5.5 inches of rain. Jeff Knotts, FSA CED, said 2 – 5.5 inches of rain and cooler temperatures came to Bullock and Pike Counties.

Corn/Cotton/Peanut/Soybeans: Seay said the rain should improve late planted and double-crop soybeans; however, the moisture hindered corn harvest. Atkinson said cotton needs warmer temperatures to mature. Donald Mann, FSA CED, reported several acres of corn blown down and yield loss in Jackson County; however, the rain will help late soybeans. Key said corn in Etowah and St. Clair Counties did not appear to have received any damage from Tropical Storm Lee; however, cotton plants are twisted together from rain and wind. Key said, early planted soybeans are almost ready to harvest, but the plants are lodging from excessive rain and wind. Smith said the rain has helped improve some pastures, double-cropped soybeans and cotton, but full-season cotton, peanuts and soybeans received little benefit from the rain.

Pasture/Hay/Livestock: Gay said Randolph and Clay Counties reached a U.S. Drought Monitor level to be eligible for the full three months of payment on the Livestock Forage Program for those who have taken out NAP Insurance. Gay said they continue to receive Notices of Loss Reports on the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program on grass, and in some areas pastures are being plowed up to start over due to excessive grass loss. Henry Dorrough, ACES Regional Extension Agent (REA), said the late rain did not help warm season grasses as they are going dormant this time of year. Jackson said most pastures in the Blackbelt benefited from the increase in available moisture, but still lack the slow soaking rainfall needed to recharge the water table. Brenda Glover, ACES REA, and Charles Simon, ACES CEC, said another hay cutting is a possibility thanks to the recent rains.

Name	City	State	Average Mean Temperature Value (°F)	Total Precipitation Value (in.)
Birmingham Area	Birmingham	AL	68.1	7.6
Huntsville Area	Huntsville	AL	66.4	5.2
Mobile Area	Mobile	AL	70.7	1.12
Montgomery Area	Montgomery	AL	70.0	2.65

U.S. Drought Monitor, September 6, 2011

National Weather Service
<http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm>

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	46.26	53.74	42.31	30.60	17.37	0.00
Last Week (08/30/2011 map)	20.03	79.97	61.33	46.73	23.29	0.00
3 Months Ago (06/07/2011 map)	23.28	76.72	54.88	40.72	21.34	0.79
Start of Calendar Year (12/28/2010 map)	17.47	82.53	55.26	29.34	1.82	0.00
Start of Water Year (09/28/2010 map)	3.64	96.36	66.34	25.17	4.40	0.00
One Year Ago (08/31/2010 map)	47.65	52.35	17.59	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional

